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THE HUMBLE Petition of the Gentry of

and Commons of the County of YORK,

Presented to His Majestie at Yorke,

April 22. 1642.

AND

His Majesties Message sent to the Parliament

April 24. 1642.

Concerning Sir John Hotchams Refusal to give him

Entrance into Hull.

Whereto is annexed,

HIS MAJESTIES ANSWER

To the Petition of the LORDS and

Commons in Parliament,

Concerning His Message lately sent to them, declaring

His Resolution to goe into Ireland.



LONDON.

Printed by Tho: Fawcett. 1642.

To the Kings most Excel-
lent MAJESTIE.

The humble Petition of the Gentry and Commons
of the County of York.

Most Royall Sovereigne:



Encouraged by Your Majesties many Testimonies of your gracious goodness to us and our County, which wee can never sufficiently acknowledge; Wee in in all duty and loyalty of Heart addressse our selves to Your Sacred Majesty, beseeching You to cast Your eyes and thoughts upon the safety of Your owne Person and Your Princely Issue, and this whole County, a great meanes of which we conceive doth consist in the Armes and Ammunition at Hull, placed there by Your Princely care and charge, and since upon general apprehension of dangers from Forreign parts represented to Your Majesty, thought fit as yet to be continued. Wee for our parts, concceiving our selves to be still in danger, doe most humbly beseech your Majesty, that you will be pleased to take such course and order that your Magazine may still there remaine, for the better securing of these and the rest of the Northerne parts: And the rather because wee thinke it fit, that that part of the Kingdome should be best provided where your Sacred Person doth reside, your Person being like Davids, The light of Israel, and more worth then ten thousand of us.

who shall daily pray, &c.

His



15-2-25

His Maiesties Answer to a Petition presented to him
at Yorke, Aprill 18. 1642. by the Earle of Stamford, &c.
in the name of both Houses.



E are so troubled and astonished to find the unexpected reception and misunderstanding of Our Message of the 8. of Aprill, concerning our Irish Journey, that being so much disappointed of the approbation and thanks we looked for to that Declaration; We have great cause to doubt, whether it be in Our power to say or do any thing which shall not fall within the like interpretation. But as We have in that Message called God to witness the sincerity of the profession of Our onely Ends for the undertaking that Journey; So we must appeale to all our good Subjects, and the whole world, whether the Reasons alleadged against that Journey be of weight to satisfie Our understanding, or the counsell presented to dissuade Us from it, be full of that duty as is like to preuale over our affections.

For our resolving of so great a businesse without the Advice of Our Parliament; We must remember you how often by Our Messages We made the same offer, if you should advise Us thereunto: To which you never gave us the least answer: But in your late Declaration told us, That ye were not to be satisfied with words: so that We had reason to conceive you rather avoided (out of regard to Our person) to give Us counsell to run that hazard, then that you disapproved the inclination. And what great comfort or security can the Protestants of Christendome receive, then by seeing a Protestant King venture and engage his person for the defence of that Profession, and the suppression of Popery, to which We solemnly protested in that Message, never to grant a Toleration, upon what pretence soever, or an Abolition of any of the Lawes there in force against the Professors of it. And when We consider the great, calamities, and unheard of cruelties Our poore Protestant Subjects in that Kingdome have undergone for the space of neare, or full sixe Moneths, the growerhand increase of the strength of those barbarous Rebels, and the evident probability of Forraigne Supplyes, (if they are not speedily suppressed) The very slow succours hitherto sent them from hence; That the Officers of severall Regiments, who have long since bin Allowed entertainment from

for that service have not raised any Supply or succor for that Kingdom. That many troops of horse have long lien neer boster untransported; That the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, on whom We relied principally for the Conduet and managing of Affayres there, is still in this Kingdome, notwithstanding Our earnestnesse expressed that he should repayre to his Command; And when We consider the many and great scandals raised upon Our Selfe by report of the Rebels, and not sufficiently discountenanced here, notwithstanding so many professions of Ours; And had seene a Booke lately printed by the Order of the House of Commons, Entituled; *A Remonstrance of divers Remarkable Passages concerning the Church and Kingdome of Ireland*, Whereof some Examinations are set downe, which (how improbable or impossible soever) may make an impression in the minds of many of Our weake Subjects: And lastly when We duely weigh the dishonour which will perpetually lye upon this Kingdome, if full and speedy relief be not dispatched thither, We could, nor cannot thinke of a better way to discharge Our duty to Almighty God, for the defence of the true Religion, Profession, or to manifest Our affection to Our three Kingdoms, for their preservation, then by engaging Our Person in this expedition. Many of Our progenitors have done, even in Fo-reigne parts, upon occasions of lesse importance and Piety, with great Honour to themselves, and advantage to this Kingdome: And therefore we expected at least, that you for such Our inclination.

For the danger to our Person, We conceive necessary and worthy of a King to adventure his life to preserve his Kingdom: neither can it be imagined, that We will sit still, and suffer our Kingdome to be lost, and Our good Protestant Subjects to be massacred, without exposing our own Person to the utmost hazard for their safety and preservation: Our life when it was most pleasan, being nothing so precious to Us, as it is, and shall be to governe and preserve Our People with Honour and Justice.

For any encouragement to the Rebels, because of the reports raised, We cannot conceive that the Rebels are capable of a greater errour, then by the presence of their Lawfull King in the head of an Army to chastise them; besides, it will be an unspeakable advantage to them, if any reports of theirs could hinder us from doing any thing which were fit for us to do, if such reports were not raised: This would quickly teach them, in this jealous Age, to prevent by such reports any other persons comming against them, whom they had no mind should be so employed.

Wee

We marvell that the Adventurers, whose advantage was a
principal Motive (next the reason before mentioned) to us, should,
so much mistake Our purpose, whose Interest we conceive must
be much improved by the expedition we hope (by Gods blessing)
to use in this Service: this being the most probable way for the
speedy Conquest of the Rebels: Their Lands are sufficiently secured
by Act of Parliament.

We thinke not Our selfe kindly used, that the addition of so few
men to your Leavies (for a guard to Our Person in Ireland) should
be thought fit for your refusall: and much more, that having used
so many Cautions in this Message, both in the smalnesse of the num-
ber; In Our having raised none untill your Answer: In their
being to be raised onely neere their place of Shipping: In their
bring there to be Armed, and that, not till they were ready to be
Shipped: In the provision by the Oaths, that none of them
should be Papists (all which appeares sufficient to destroy all grounds
of jealousy of any sort intended by them in opposition to the Par-
liament, or favour to any malignant party) any suspition should not-
withstanding be grounded upon it.

Neither can it be understood, That when We recommend the
Managing of that War to you, That We intended to exclude Our
selfe, or not to be concerned in your Counsels, That if We found
any expedient (which in Our conscience or understanding Wee
thought necessary for that great work) We might not put it in
practice. We looke upon you as Our great Councell, whose ad-
vice VVe alwayes have and will (with great regard and delibera-
tion) weigh and consider, But We looke upon Our selfe, as
neither deprived of Our understanding, or devested of any right
We had, if there were no Parliament sitting, We called you to-
gether by Our owne Writ and Authority (without which you
could not have met) to give us your faythfull Councell about Our
great affairs: But wee resigned not up our owne Interest and Free-
dom, We never subiected our selfe to your absolute determination,
VVe have alwayes weighed your Counsels, as proceeding from a
Body entrusted by us: And when we have dissenting from you,
VVe have returned you the reasons, which have prevailed with
our conscience and understanding, with that Candor as a Prince
should use towards his Subjects, and that affection, which a Father
can expresse to his children. VVhat application hath beene used to
refuse

rectifie our understanding by reasons, or what Motives have beeene given to perswade our affections, VVe leave to the world to judge. And thea we must tell you, howsoever a Major part may bind you in matter of opinion, we hold our selfe (and we are sure the Law, and the constitution of the Kingdome hath alwayes held the same) as free to dissent (till our reason be convinced for the generall good). as if you delivered no opinion.

For our Journey it selfe, the circumstancies of your Petition are such, as we know not we'll what answere to returne, or whether we were best to give any. That part which pretend to carry reason with it, doth no way satisfie us: The other which is rather reprobation and Menace, then advice, cannot stagger us. Our Answer therefore is, That we shall be very glad to find the worke of Ireland so easie as you seeme to thinke it, which did not so appeare by anything knowinge to us, when we sent our Message. And though we will never refuse, or be unwilling to venture Our person for the good and safety of our People, VVe are not so weary of our life as to hazard it impertinently. And therefore since you seeme to have received advertisements of some late and great Successes in that Kingdome, we will stay some time to see the event of those, and not pursue this resolution, till we have given you a second notice. But if we find the miserable condition of Our poore Subjects of that Kingdome be not speedyly releaved, we will (with Gods assistance) visit them with succours, as our particular Credit and interest can supply us with, if you refuse to joyne with us. And we doubt not but the Leavies we shall make (in which we will observe punctually the former, and all other cautions, as may best prevent all Feares and Jealousies, and to use no power but what is Legall) will be so much to the satisfaction of our good Subjects, as no person will dare presume to resist our Commands, and if they should, at their perill. In the meane time we hope our forwardnesse, so remarkable to that service, shall be notorious to all the world, & that all scandalls layd on us in that busynesse, shall be clearely wiped away.

VVe were so carefull that our Journey into Ireland should not interrupt the proceedings of Parliament, nor deprive our Subjects of any Acts of Justice, or further Acts of Grace, for the reall benefit of our People; that we made a free offer of leaving such power behind, as should not onely be necessary for the peace and safety of

of the Kingdome, but fully provide for the happy progreſſe of the Parliament. And therefore we cannot but wonder, ſince ſuch Power hath beene alwayes left here by Commission for the Government of this Kingdome, when our Progenitours have been out of the ſame during the ſitting of Parliaments, and ſince your ſelves desired that ſuch a Power might be left here by us, at Our laſt going into Scotland, what Law of the Land have you now found to diſpence with you, from ſubmitting to ſuch Authority Legally derived from us in our absence, and to enable you to Govern this Kingdome by your owne meer Authority.

For Our retурne towards London, We have given you so full an Answer in our late Declaration, and in Answer to your Petition presented to Us at Yorke the 26 of March last, that we know not what to adde, if you will not provide for Our Security with you, nor agree to remove to another place, where there may not be the same Danger to Us. We expected that (since we have beene so particular in the Causes and Grounds of Our Feares) you should haue sent Us word, that you had published such Declarations against future Tumults, and unlawfull Assemblies, and taken such Courses for the suppressing of Seditious Sermons and Pamphlets, that Our Feares of that kind might be layd aside, before you should preesse Our Returne.

To conclude, We could wish that you would (with the same strictnesse and severity) weigh and examine your Messages and Expressions to Us, as you doe those yee receive from Us: For We are very confident, that if you examine Our Rights and Priviledges, by what Our Predecessors have enjoyed; and your owne addressees, by the usuall Curses of your Ancestors, yee will finde many expressions in this *Petition* warranted onely by your Owne Authority, which indeed VVe forbear to take notice of, or to give Answer to, lest we should be tempted (in a just indignation) to expresse a greater Passion, then we are yet willing to put on. God in his good time (we hope) will so inform the hearts of all Our Subjects, that we shall recover from the mischiefe and danger of this Distemper: On whose good pleasure we will wait with all patience and humilitie.

... **His** *compendia* a *modus* of to *profess* *the* *new* *religion* *and* *to* *con-*

His Majesties Message sent to the Parliament,

April 24. 1643.

Concerning Sir John Hotham's Refusal to give His Majesties Entrance into Hull.

His Majesty having received the Petition inclosed from most of the chiefe of the Gentry neare about Roche, concerning the tray of His Majesties Armes and Munition in His Magazine at Hull, for the safety (not only of His Majesties Person and Children, but likewise of all these Northern parts: The manifold rumours of great Dangers aduincing them to make their said Supplication) Thought it most fit to goe Himselfe in Person to his Towne of Hull, to view his Armes and Munition there, that thereupon He might give Directions, what part thereof might be necessary to remaine there, for the security and satisfaction of His Northern Subjects, and what part thereof might be spared for Ireland, The Arming of His Majesties Seets Subjects that are to goe thither, Or to replenish His chiefe Magazine of the Tower of London; Where being come, upon the three and twentith of this instant April, much contrary to His expectation, He found all the Gates shut upon him, and the Bridges drawne up, by the expresse command of Sir John Hotham, (who for the pretence commands a Garrison there) and from the Walls flatly denied his Majesties Entrance into his said Towne, the reason of the said deniall being as strange to his Majestie, as the thing it selfe, It being, That hee could not admit his Majestie without the act of Trust to his Parliament; which did the more increase His Majesties anger against him, for that hee most Seditionously and Traitorously would have put his disobedience upon His Majesties Parliament; which his Majesty being willing to cleare, demanded of him if he had the impudence to avertre, that the Parliament had directed him to deny his Majesties entrance, and that it he had any such Order, that hee should shew it in Writing; for otherwise his Majesty could not beleive it; which he could no wayes produce, but maliciously made that false interpretation according to his owne Interesse, confessing that he had no such positive Order, which his Majesty was ever confident of: But his Majesty not willing to take so much paines in vain, offered to come into that his Towne ouely with twenty Horse, finding that the maine of his pretence lay, That his Majesties Traine was able to Command the Garrison: Notwithstanding, his Majesty was so desirous to goe thither in a private way, that he gave warning thereof but over-night; Which hee refusing, by the way of Condition (which his Majesty thought much below Him) held it most necessary to declare him Traitor (unlesse upon better thoughts, he should yeld Obedience) which hee doubly deserved, aswell for refusing Entrance to his naturall Sovereign, as by laying the reason thereof groundlessly and maliciously upon his Parliament.

One Circumstance His Majesty cannot forget, That his Son the Duke of Yorke, and his Nephew the Prince Elector, having gone thither the day before, Sir John Hotham delayed the letting of them out to his Majesty till after some consultation.

Hereupon His Majesty hath thought it expedient to demand Justice of his Parliament against the said Sir John Hotham, to be exemplarily inflicted on him according to the Lawes, and the rather, because His Majesty would give them a fit occasion to free themselves of this Impatation, by him so injuriously cast upon them, to the end His Majesty may have the easier way for the chastising of so high a disobedience.

FINIS.



